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OFFICE OF ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AFFAIRS

# OAPIA e-newsletter

## Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration

**May** Asian Pacific American Heritage Month activities were widely celebrated by the District Government and the community.

**Training:** Nearly 200 DC government employees and community members attended the Cultural Sensitivity Training sessions on 5/6 to learn more about the Asian cultures.

In two separate sessions, Francey Youngberg of Youngberg & Associates presented the basic overview of the Asian cultures and issues while Ben Lieu and Diane Mitchum of Department of Justice discussed about the power of collaboration and the process of working through conflicts. The training encouraged the participants to learn and respect Asian cultures, to be aware of the important issues within the Asian community, and to foster positive, caring, and respectful relationships with people with different backgrounds and cultures.

Almost all participants agreed that this type of training is necessary and expressed that they would like to see cultural sensitivity trainings made mandatory for all government employees. Some other suggestions include offering training sessions throughout the year, organizing training sessions in smaller groups, focusing on particular issues such as overcoming conflicts, and tailoring training sessions for each agency to help agencies' employees to know how to work with the API community more effectively.





## **Cultural Celebration & Mayor's Town Hall Meeting:**

About 300 residents and agencies' representatives joined the APA Heritage Month Celebration at Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Library on 5/13 and had a dialog with Mayor Anthony A. Williams and his cabinet members.

Local community groups and individuals entertained the audience with cultural performances and business provided refreshments.

API residents voiced their appreciation for the Mayor's commitment to better serve the API community. Residents also voiced their concerns, problems, and asked for more assistance from the Mayor and city agencies in their own languages. The Mayor along with agencies' directors & representatives addressed residents concerns and promised to look into individual cases that were brought up during and after the Town Hall meeting.

Mayor Anthony A. Williams presented community awards to outstanding DC employees and community members who made great contributions to the API community. This year's award recipients include Valerie Kitchings (Department of Employment Services), Office Jay Hong (Asian Liaison Unit-MPD), Lucinda Yeh (Community), and Kim Phu Nguyen (youth). In addition, The Mayor also recognized all award nominees from the community and city agencies for their hard work.





**Photo Exhibition: “The Many Faces of Asian Pacific Americans in D.C.”:** In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, OAPIA and the Commission on Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs put together a photo exhibition to feature local API’s who live and/or work in the District, including teachers, attorney, street vendor, police officer, engineer, doctor, senior citizen, community volunteer, children, etc. The project has increased the awareness of API members, their stories, and contributions to the diversity of the District. Below are some of the featured Asian Pacific Americans.



***"Opportunities For All"***



### **OAPIA Upcoming Events:**

-  The series of ***Merchant Workshops*** will continue in Florida Market, DC during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June. Merchant Workshops are designed to outreach to local merchants, discussing rules, regulations, safety, customer service, recycle, compliance issues. Details will follow.
-  The ***Housing Workshop*** will be held on Thursday, June 26 from 6:30-8:30pm at Sacred Heart Church. This Housing Workshop will cover two important housing issues: Landlord/Tenants, and affordable housing.

## Services For All

### *Did you know?*

- ✓ Many DC government agencies have access to AT&T language lines that allow residents with limited English Proficiency to communicate their concerns and get their questions answered with the help of interpreters.
- ✓ **Funding Alert** is a free service of the Office of Partnerships and Grants Development in the Executive Office of Mayor. To be added to the list, send your name and organization with an email or fax number to [fundingalert@dc.gov](mailto:fundingalert@dc.gov). For archives visit [http://opgd.dc.gov/services/grant/funding\\_alerts/index.htm](http://opgd.dc.gov/services/grant/funding_alerts/index.htm)
- ✓ **WIC** (Women, Infant, and Children) program of the Department of Health is a federally funded nutrition program that provides nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, and supplemental food to pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and children up to age 5. Eligible recipients receive Nutrition counseling and education, Breastfeeding Resources and Support, Nutrient-rich foods, Immunization assessment and screening, Referrals to health and social service providers. To apply, call 1 (800) 345-1WIC

### *Career Opportunities:*

- The New Washington Convention Center has the following career opportunities: Plumber, Assistant Manager, Engineering Services, Sprinkler Fitter, Web Applications Developer, and Account Executive. For details, please contact [career@dcconvention.com](mailto:career@dcconvention.com), 202-249-3089 or 202-249-3198, fax: 202-249-3116.
- Asian American LEAD, a nonprofit organization that bridges cultures for Asian American youth in Washington, DC, is embarking on a new strategic plan. AALEAD has created a role for a Deputy Director to help guide its anticipated growth. Please apply to Elizabeth Humphrey at The McCormick Group via email to [ehumphrey@tmg-dc.com](mailto:ehumphrey@tmg-dc.com) or via fax to 703-524-2689.

### Scholar Awards

Fulbright Scholar Awards in Law - Some Fulbright Scholar awards in law are still open for the 2003-04 academic year. Grants are available in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, Newly Independent States, East Asia and Latin America. For more information about these awards, go to:

[http://www.cies.org/award\\_book/award2004/discipline/LAW28.htm](http://www.cies.org/award_book/award2004/discipline/LAW28.htm) or check their website at <http://www.cies.org>.

For other Fulbright Scholar Programs, visit: [http://www.cies.org/Fulbright\\_programs.htm](http://www.cies.org/Fulbright_programs.htm)

# FUNDING ALERT

**Advance Placement Incentive (API) Program.** *The Department of Education (DOED)* announces funds to increase the successful participation of low-income students in pre-advanced placement and advanced placement courses and tests. Eligible applicants include state educational agencies, local educational agencies (including charter schools), and national nonprofit educational entities. The deadline for applications is July 3, 2003. For further information, contact Madeline E. Baggett at (202) 260-2502 or [madeline.baggett@ed.gov](mailto:madeline.baggett@ed.gov)

**Jobs and Living Wages for the Poor.** *The Discount Foundation* focuses on expanding job opportunities, wages, and benefits for poor and working people, including participants in state and local workfare programs. The Foundation supports community education, community organizing, and citizen participation efforts to improve the economic and social well being of the poor and their families. The deadline for Letters of Inquiry is October 15, 2003. For more information, contact the Foundation at (301) 468-1288 or [info@discountfoundation.org](mailto:info@discountfoundation.org); or go to: [www.discountfoundation.org](http://www.discountfoundation.org)

**Strengthening Partners Initiative (SPI).** *The DC Office of Partnerships and Grants Development (OPGD)* announces that applications are now available for the 2003-2004 SPI Class. SPI is a training opportunity for emerging nonprofit and faith-based organizations. The one-year program will help nonprofit professionals move their organizations to the next level of operations and service-delivery. Applications **must be picked up** from OPGD, 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 200 South, Washington, DC. A pre-application workshop is scheduled for Thursday, June 26, from 10:00-12:00 noon in the old council chambers on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001 (Metro stop: Red Line-Judiciary Square). For additional information, call (202) 727-8900

**Enhanced Home Visiting Pilot Project.** *The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/ Administration for Children and Families (ACF)* announces funds to develop and implement enhanced home visiting models to assist primary caregivers in training, and skills necessary to help the child develop to his or her highest potential. Eligible applicants include all Early Head Start programs in good standing. The deadline for applications is June 30, 2003. For further information, go to: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/hsb/grant/fundingopportunities/enhanced.htm>

**Phase II Community Action Grant.** *The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)* announces funds to promote the adoption of exemplary mental health practices in communities around the country. Eligible applicants include private nonprofit organizations, community-based and faith-based organizations, health care organizations, and state and local government. The deadline for applications is July 8, 2003. For further information, contact David Morrisette at (301) 443-3653 or [dmorriss@samhsa.gov](mailto:dmorriss@samhsa.gov).

**Prevention of Ecstasy Abuse.** *The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)* announces funds for cooperative agreements to conduct targeted capacity expansion of Ecstasy and other club drugs preventions and interventions and/or infrastructure development. Eligible applicants include public and private nonprofit entities, community-based and faith-based organizations, health care delivery systems, and units of state and local government. Applications deadline is July 22, 2003. Contact Pamela C. Roddy at (301) 443-1001 or [proddy@samhsa.gov](mailto:proddy@samhsa.gov); or go to: <http://www.samhsa.gov> - click on "Grant Opportunities."

**Street Outreach Program.** *The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Administration for Children and Families (ACF)* announces funds to provide education and prevention services to runaway, homeless and street youth who have been subjected to or are at risk of sexual exploitation or abuse. Eligible applicants include private nonprofit agencies, including community-based and faith-based organizations. Applications deadline is June 9, 2003. For further information, contact Dorothy Pittard at (202) 205-8102; or go to: [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb)